Depot Town Rag

Volume 19, Number 6 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

June 1996

100% FREE Rag Content

- BAR TALK
- Bike rax
- Park Place
- *Meet the farmers*
- **Rubber Ducky Race**
- **Summer season**
- Archeological dig

and other strictly local stuff . . .

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. P.O. Box 970-235, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197-0804

- The Bettmann Archive

Depot Town's railroad saloons survived 14 years of U.S. Prohibition

The Early Prohibition Movement in the U.S

-Contributed by: Norman H. Clark, *Encarta*

In England and the American colonies, governments after 1750 made repeated and futile efforts to discourage the excessive use of distilled spirits. In the U.S., as the annual per capita consumption of alcohol from all spirituous beverages during the 1830s rose to about 15 liters (this is computed as absolute, or 200-proof, spirits and would be the equivalent of 37.5, about 10 gallons, of the usually 80-proof whiskey, rum, or gin), many religious and political leaders were beginning to see drunkenness as a national curse. Abraham Lincoln said of this period that intoxicating liquor was 'used by everybody, repudiated by nobody' and that it came forth in society 'like the Egyptian angel of death, commissioned to slay if not the first, the fairest born in every family.'

Many people believed a close relationship existed between drunkenness and the rising incidence of crime, poverty, and violence, concluding that the only way to protect society from this threat was to abolish the 'drunkard-making business.' The first state prohibition law, passed in Maine in 1851, prohibited the manufacture and sale of 'spiritous or intoxicating liquors' not intended for medical or mechanical purposes, and 13 of the 31 states had such laws by 1855. By that time the annual per capita consumption of absolute alcohol had fallen to about 4 liters (about 1 gallon).

The political crisis that preceded the American Civil War distracted attention from Prohibition. Many of the early state laws were modified, repealed, or ignored, and for years few restraints were placed on manufacturing or selling anything alcoholic. The population increased rapidly after the Civil War, and soon there were more than 100,000 saloons in the country (about 1 for every 400 men, women, and children in 1870); these saloons became increasingly competitive for the drinkers' wages. Thus, many of them permitted gambling, prostitution, sales to minors, public drunkenness, and violence.

[Continued on page two]

Anti-Saloon League, 21st Amendment, Effects, Repeal, & End
***PLUS*: Bar & Grill, New habits, Ten years later, Lexicon**

Prohibition repealed! Depot Town's taverns serving again

Some say the railroaders' watering holes just kept on serving drinks during America's liquor prohibition from January 16, 1920 to December 1933, but the few who are left in the block from that time say otherwise. Some taverns survived the fourteen-year 'dry spell' by turning their taverns into dining rooms and specializing in meals; others became ice cream parlors. Certainly there were a few which opened secret doors, elevators, and stairways to other rooms which still offered the banned commodity: alcohol.

Team made repeal real, say local brew tasters

Many Depot Towners say they felt the repeal of U.S. Prohibition was not adequately celebrated on this block until the triumphant appearance of the Anheuser-Busch/Budweiser Clydesdale eight-horse hitch came to the district on 15 June 1993. The handsome work horses, known for pulling beer wagons, also drew other kinds of freight in cities and countries around the world.

Prohibition

[continued from page one]

The Anti-Saloon League

In reaction to this, the extraordinary 'Women's War' broke out across the nation in 1873. Thousands of women marched from church meetings to saloons, where with prayer and song they demanded 'with transitory results' that saloonkeepers give up their businesses. By 1900, millions of men and women were beginning to share this hostility toward the saloon and to regard it as the most dangerous social institution then threatening the family. The Anti-Saloon League of America (ASL), organized in Ohio, effectively marshaled such people into political action. State chapters of the ASL endorsed candidates for public office and demanded of their state governments that the people be allowed to vote yes or no on the question of continuing to license the saloons. (Holly, Michigan, today holds an annual festival similar to Ypsilanti's Heritage Festival. Holly, however, celebrates 'Carry Nation Days' with rolling pin tossing, and other ASL traditions humorously remembered, to recall the day Ms. Nation descended upon that town's saloons in the railroad district.)

By 1916, no less than 23 of the 48 states had adopted antisaloon laws, which in those states closed the saloons and prohibited the manufacture of any alcoholic beverages. Even more significant, the national elections of that year returned a U.S. Congress in which the ASL-supported dry members (those who supported Prohibition) outnumbered the wet members (those who were against Prohibition) by more than two to one. On December 22, 1917, with majorities well in excess of the two-thirds requirement, Congress submitted to the states the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibited 'the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors.' By January 1919 ratification was complete, with 80 percent of the members of 46 state legislatures recorded in approval.

National Prohibition in the U.S

To enforce the 18th Amendment, Congress passed the National Prohibition Act, usually called the Volstead Act because Congressman Andrew Volstead (1860-1947) of Minnesota introduced it in 1919. This law defined the prohibited 'intoxicating liquors' as those with an alcoholic content of more than 0.5 percent, although it made concessions for liquors sold for medicinal, sacramental, and industrial purposes, and for fruit or grape beverages prepared for personal use in homes. Because the Congress and the state legislatures, however, were reluctant to appropriate enough money for more than token enforcement 'and because the opportunities for disregarding the law through smuggling, distilling, fermenting, and brewing were legion' Prohibition always represented more of an ideal than a reality. On this basis the Prohibition era began at midnight on January 16, 1920.

The Effects of Prohibition

The era inspired an extensive body of colorful literature, most of it alleging that the period was one of moral decay and social disorder precisely because of 'Volsteadism,' which came to mean the intolerable searches, seizures, and shootings by police who, with their token enforcement, seemed to threaten intrusion into the private lives of law-respecting persons. It also alleged that Prohibition distorted the role of alcohol in American life, causing people to drink more rather than less; that it promoted disrespect for the law; that it generated a wave of organized criminal activity, during which the bootlegger (one who sold liquor illegally), the 'speakeasy' (an illegal saloon), and the gangster became popular institutions; and that the profits available to criminals from illegal alcohol corrupted almost every level of government. Historians, however, believe that in the beginning of the era, and at least until the middle of the decade, most Americans respected the law, hoped that it would endure, and regarded its passage as directly responsible for the reduced incidence of public drunkenness and of alcohol-related crime, imprisonments, and hospitalizations. Statistics show that Prohibition reduced the annual per capita consumption from 9.8 liters (2.6 gal) of absolute alcohol during the period before state laws were effective (1906-1910) to 3.7 liters (0.97 gal) after Prohibition (1934). Moreover, no striking statistical evidence of a crime wave during the 1920s exists, although the crime rate did rise.

Movement Toward Repeal

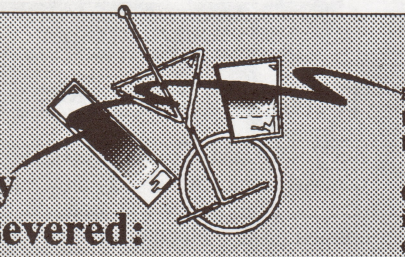
In the late 1920s, however, more and more Americans found the idea of repeal increasingly attractive. The reasons for this were numerous and complex, the government's failure to enforce the law being only one of them. Most Americans were happy that the old-time saloon had been abolished, but they felt that a new society was emerging in the 1920s' a primarily urban and industrial society of great geographic and social mobility and great ethnic and religious diversities, in which the protection of the family from alcohol was perhaps less socially urgent than the expansion and protection of individual freedom.

This disillusionment with Prohibition occurred in every country that had earlier attempted it. In Canada, the dry laws of 1919 were soon repealed because of economic pressures, not the least of which were the opportunities to sell liquor to citizens of the dry U.S. Provincial laws after repeal did, however, provide for government-owned stores and for local option. In Norway, a referendum in 1926 abolished the earlier restriction, but strict regulation of the times and places liquor could be sold preserved a tight rein on drunkenness. Sweden held to state monopoly and severe rationing. Finland repealed its prohibition law by referendum in 1932.

The End of Prohibition

In the U.S., a major shift in public opinion occurred during the early years of the Great Depression, when opponents could argue persuasively that Prohibition deprived people of jobs and governments of revenue and generally contributed to economic stagnation. The actual political campaign for repeal was largely the work of the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment (AAPA), a nonpartisan organization of wealthy and influential citizens in all states who were 'wet' in principle and who feared that through Prohibition the federal government might permanently compromise the tradition of individual freedom. Like the ASL, the AAPA actively endorsed and opposed candidates for state and federal offices. Its goal was that Congress should submit to the states the 21st Amendment to the Constitution, which would repeal the 18th, and submit it in such a way as to circumvent the various state legislatures in which, it feared, dry legislators from rural districts, in opposition to majority sentiment, might present a serious challenge to ratification. To avoid this, Congress, for the first time since the Constitution itself was ratified and for much the same reason, called for ratifying conventions in each of the states: Delegates would be elected by the people for the specific purpose of voting yes or no regarding the question of the 21st Amendment. The elections for convention delegates in 1933 produced a repeal vote running almost 73 percent. In a remarkably coordinated effort by the states and the Congress, ratification was complete in December of that year.

Following repeal, liquor control again became a state rather than a federal problem. The annual per capita consumption of absolute alcohol in the country rose after the repeal from 4.2 liters (1.1. gal) in 1935 to 7.6 liters (2.0 gal) in 1975, but most states still retain restrictions on the sale and consumption of alcohol.



They persevered: Aubree's, Sticks, Sidetrack, Cady's

Sidetrack Grill was known in its earlier life as Nick Max's and the Central Bar, named for the Michigan Central Railroad f or whose tracks it is still named.

Aubree's Saloon has been the Alibi Bar, Oliver House, Dad's, and other names. During prohibition it was a dining room and ice cream parlor. The former upstairs rooms for railroaders became today's Sticks, an elegant pool parlor.

Cady's Grill, formerly the Old Town Restaurant, was also Turner's Restaurant at one time.

Deepest sympathy

The French families and the entire neighborhood mourn the passing of Jonathan David French, 15, son of DTA president David V. French who died at his home in Pennsylvania on May 14. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent in Jonathan's name to The Compassionate Friends, Pittsburgh Pennsylvania Chapter, P.O. Box 17388, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

Archeological digs turn up surprises

1. Installing a new retaining wall behind Richard Reid's Hair Station entailed pulling out lots of the old sidewalk that was stacked in chunks to separate the two parking spaces, but a foot below the surface of the former coal yard the crew discovered the actual ties and tracks of a railroad line. The origin of the spur has always been above the surface just north of the Ypsilanti Food Co-op but, after it passed under North River Street, it stayed underground from the Sidetrack to somewhere near City Body. Railfans related which kind of track gauge and other minutiae that have eluded the editor.

2. Meanwhile, inside the Hair Station, yet another crew knocked out a small wall panel and discovered ... a flower shop! Reid's building now affords indoor passage from the newly expanded Hair Station to Hon's Flowers. With the opening of this ancient doorway, numbers 46, 48 and 50 are connected once again.

Dateline: Depot Town

A Neighborhood Forgotten by Time (and Life and Newsweek)

Rubber Ducky Race returns as a community partnership

-from the Central Business Community newsletter

The Friends of the Ypsilanti Police, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and the Depot Town Association have joined forces in an innovative community partnership as co-sponsors of this year's Rubber Ducky Race. The race will take place at 4 P.M. on Sunday, August 18 at Riverside Park during Heritage Festival.

Ducks for the race will be sold weekends at the Ypsilanti Carpenter Road Sam's Club during the weekends of June 15 and 16, 29 and 30, and July 6 and 7. Ducks will also be sold at numerous other retail and restaurant sites in the Ypsilanti area, as well as during all three days of Heritage Festival. A list of Authorized Duck Sale Sites will be released at a later date. Ducks are $5 each or 5/$20 before Heritage Festival and $5 each after August 14th.

Prizes for the Sunday race include a first place prize of a Tiger Shark Montego water craft (donated by Michigan Motor Sports on Ecorse Road in Ypsilanti); second place is a personal computer package; third place is a mountain bike; plus several other prizes, each with a value of no less than $50.

In conjunction with the Rubber Ducky Race, there will be a Corporate Ducky Race held on Saturday, August 17 at 2 P.M. in Riverside Park.

Businesses may pre-purchase decoys at $100 each for their own decoration and placement in the Saturday race. The only restriction on Corporate Ducks is no motors may be attached to the decoys. The winning duck will receive a Traveling Trophy to display in their place of business for a year.

Proceeds from the Rubber Ducky Race and Corporate Duck Race will go toward developing and maintaining positive educational youth activities and programs in the greater Ypsilanti area.

The Rubber Ducky Race has always been an integral part of the Heritage Festival and was markedly absent last year when it did not run. Michigan's original and first Rubber Ducky Race was started and sponsored in previous years by the Spirit of Ypsilanti.

Just as the swallows return to Capistrano each spring, the lucky ducks return to Ypsilanti every August. For more information, contact Marketing Co-chairs, Linda French (483-1035) or Deb Royal (485-8757).

News & Interviews from Ypsilanti's Farmers' Market

Meet our Michigan farmers - Judy Andrews

Throughout the winter months at the Ypsilanti Farmers' Market mot of the fruits and vegetables sold at the Market are imported from various parts of the country and around the world. But now that Michigan has entered into its own growing season — short though it may be and oft times delayed by lingering cold nights — with great anticipation we see the return of our "seasonal vendors" as they bring home-grown Michigan produce to the Market.

So, once again, indoor and outdoor farmers will fill the Market area, the weather will be warm, the sun will shine, as we all sit around sipping coffee and enjoying the fruits of someone else's labor, as we savor the sweet, luscious, juicy strawberry. 'Tis the season!

You can expect to see the return of **Jonathan and Karlene Goetz** along with family — Lucas, Stephen, Jacob, and Joseph — under the blue tarp. Not only do they work the land for their summer and fall crops in Riga, Michigan, but they have a greenhouse to grow their spring vegetables and flowers.

Also, look for the return of **Dean and Susan Sell**, who have recently expanded their greenhouses and now have tons of fabulous flowers, bedding plants and hanging baskets. Later they will be bringing vegetables.

And then there's **Dorothy Zellisse**, who is more a home gardener than farmer, with potted herbs and garden plants. Later in the season look for her vegetables, cut flowers and (my favorite!) her huge, flavorful cut basil. Most of Dorothy's crops are organically grown.

Norris Stephens, from Milan, owner and operator of the "Good Medicine Farm & Greenhouse," an organic grower, has potted herb plants, bedding flowers and vegetable plants. He also grows some of those hard-to-find things like okra, arugula, mustard, turnip & collard greens, and kale. Norris is now in his fifth year at the Market, so stop by and wish him a happy birthday.

Betty and George Brower will be back this month. They usually have at least four different kinds of lettuce, asparagus, fresh leaf spinach (weather permitting), and always bundles of cut flowers and much, much more.

So, stop by the Market, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Look for strawberries, spinach, onions, peas, kale lettuce, hydroponically grown tomatoes and a good time.

New on this old block:

- Two hand-forged iron bike racks installed in May, one installed between 54 & 56 East Cross, the other in the Market Plaza.
- White parking 'Ts' on the pavement, delineating parallel parking space limits; an amenity that's been regularly discussed since the new paving was installed twenty years ago.
- The handsome park benches, installed earlier this spring, are now being enjoyed by hundreds of sidewalkers daily.

Thanks go to the Depot Town DDA for putting these plans into action and resolution.

Players facing a full season

A performance of Neil Simon's "Plaza Suite," then "Tusks are Optional - an evening with Mark Bernstein," and a spiffy new newsletter, show that the Ypsilanti Players are enjoying one of the busiest seasons in their long long history of community theater here. Last month saw auditions for "The Music Man," and that delightful chestnut will go up for four performances at Ypsilanti High School on July 25, 26, 27, and 28.

The Annual Meeting/Summer Picnic takes place in Riverside Park at noon on June 8, and president Don Wenzel encourages interest and participation.

Call the Players for additional information at Backstage: 487-PLAY.

Depot Town Association, Inc.

DTA: Firmly rooted in the past - with a clear view forward!

DTA: 23 May 1996

• **Minutes of March** approved.

• **Treasurer's report:** Update of 501 (c) 3- Carol Clare recommends to the DTA that someone should be hired to do the legal work for application for 501 (c) 3. She has the financials ready. It was recommended to see if Deb Royal would handle it since she did it for the Friends of Ypsilanti Police Department.

• **Correspondence:** From the former Chief of Police, L.J. McKeown, thanking DTA for their part in his retirement party. Also a personal thank you from Dave French to all who sent their sympathies.

Committee Reports:

• **Heritage Festival** - report on what the festival has arranged for extra parking. An agreement with Motor Wheel to use parking at River and Forest. Still no person to chair and jury crafts for Heritage Festival. A plea is out for qualified volunteers. Contact Virginia at VCB at 483-4444.

• **Farmers Market Advisory:** Market has been running ads in *Ypsilanti Press edition of Ann Arbor News* and the *Ann Arbor News*. Some completed projects at the market include new chairs, new wood-burning stove, remodeled restrooms, cleaned ceiling beams, new signs. Upcoming projects include new furniture for coffee shop and security lights for the exterior on west side of building. City is now running the coffee shop. Proceeds to be used for upcoming projects.

• **DDA Report:** Richard Reid is relinquishing his position as president of DDA. Ivan Harner is going to fill the post.

• **Frog Island Brochure for Jazz Festival.** Frog Island Festival will take place on June 21 & 22. Brochure is being worked on. To advertise, call 483-4256.

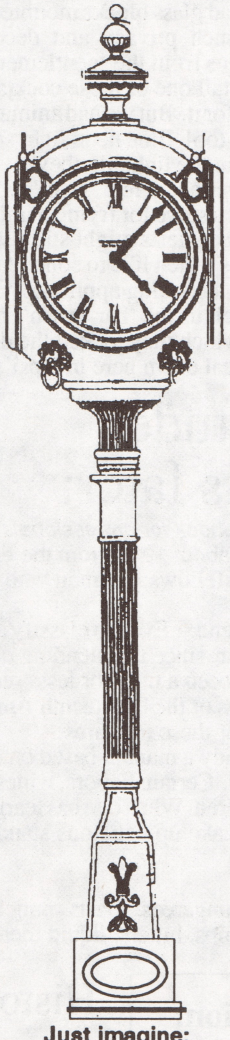
Unfinished business:

• **Bylaws vote:** Published bylaws with changes were available at the meeting. Bill French and Carol Clare made a motion to accept the new bylaws. Unanimous vote to accept them.

• **Traffic report:** Concerns made to Ypsilanti Police Department regarding increased traffic flow on Cross Street during Michigan Avenue construction resulted in promise of more traffic enforcement in the area. Other considerations to help maintain safe speeds in the area are a possible four-way stop at River and Cross, traffic light timing change at River and Cross (decrease time for east/west on Cross and increase time for north/south on River), a stop sign on Cross at Rice Street. No determinations have been made at this time.

• **Rubber Ducky update:** Friends of Ypsilanti Police Department and DTA make an enthusiastic group. Top three prizes have been determined: 1st, Jet Ski from Michigan Motor Sports; 2nd, Personal Computer package; 3rd, Mountain Bike. Other prizes to include golf packages, shopping, and dinners. (See accompanying article.)

• **Streetscape:** Bids were received from two area contractors. Bill French reported on the findings. DTA voted to contract Midwestern Consulting. First step in the plan is a schematic streetscape plan: 1. Overall framework for streetscape improvement projects, 2. Locate clock tower project area, 3. Traffic analysis of alternate clock tower locations, consider safety, visibility issues, and impact on parking and circulation.



Just imagine: A clock tower like this one in Ypsilanti! (See streetscape report in the DTA May minutes)

• **Reunion:** Date has been chosen. Reunion is planned at Ypsilanti's Auto Museum on the Friday to coincide with Eastern's Homecoming. Dates to be announced.

• **Rag update:** DTA agreed to have the Rag published every other month and to increase number of issues to 1200. Increased distribution was also discussed. Decision will be revisited again in six months.

• **Kiosk sign:** Bill French is to be the contact person for new businesses to have their name on the sign. Members agreed that any new business seeking a sign should pay for the sign instead of the DTA.

New Business:

• Chris Mason from Parish House wants to promote Depot Town and is working on a **walking tour** of Historic Downtown to include Depot Town. She also wants to put a package together of coupons, etc., from area businesses. If you are interested, contact Chris.

• **Video:** Any business interested in cooperative Depot Town video commercial, contact Sandy Hoag or Roger Julie. Merchant marketing committee is working on this project.

• **Recycling issue** for commercial businesses will be discussed at the next meeting. If you have any input, please help discuss.

Best Yet Awards: To Dave and Mary Wheeler for their recognition as the Small Business Person of the Year Award. Wheelers own Utilities Instrumentation Service on North River. Also acclaims for all volunteers who took part in Ypsilanti PRIDE. It was great to see all those white T-shirts. Honorable mention to Me 'N' My Sisters for the gourmet coffee.

THE DEPOT TOWN RAG

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate. -Tom Dodd, editor

The Depot Town Association, Inc.
David French, president
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Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197-0804

The Depot Town Rag
Tom Dodd, editor
1680 Cliffs Landing
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Depot Town Association 1996 officers:

President -
David French

Vice president (president elect) -
Sandy Hoag

Secretary -
Judy Julie

Treasurer -
Carol Clare

The Association meets on the third Thursday of every month at 6 P.M. in Renewed Interest Antiques, 33 East Cross Street. All interested parties are welcome to attend and participate.

A Depot Town Homecoming

The long-awaited Depot Town reunion will run concurrently with this fall's EMU Homecoming! Watch for more news and details to follow. . . .

Congratulations To All Our Area Graduates!

from

Standard Printing

35 E. Cross Street • Ypsilanti, MI 48198

(313) 483-0339

1933:
Repeal spurs new habits

-from *Mine Host's Handbook*, Northwood Inn, Phone: Elmhurst 6688 or Royal Oak 2577

"A little manual on the subject of fine spirits, containing something of their history, giving instruction on the judging of their quality, assembling time-honored recipes for their use and including sundry information on the tradition of their service."

"Published by National Distillers Products Corporation, NY, in 1934

"Curiously enough the output of literature on the subject of drinks and drinking was increased rather than retarded by the long drouth which has recently ended in this country.

"Perhaps the unpalatable nature of such spirituous concoctions as were available was responsible for this, calling for great ingenuity in recipes to sugar coat the pill.

"Many of these books have been written in such a merrily facetious vein that the serious seeker for the truth today is left frankly puzzled after their perusal.

"This little handbook is intended therefore to give the reader certain trustworthy facts about legitimately distilled liquors, a fascinating subject about which, curiously enough, very little has been published...

"Drinking Etiquette: With the advent of Repeal and the return of honest liquors and wines to their own, a new etiquette of drinking is to be worked out.

"Drinking etiquette in pre-prohibition was a lineal descendant from the courtly days of a distant past. It abounded with formalities — some of which were really poetic, and it smacked of romance.

"But that school of etiquette went out when National Prohibition came in. In the fourteen years passed under the Eighteenth Amendment, a new school of drinking etiquette arose — with many 'slap-stick' features and running abandonedly to daring extremes.

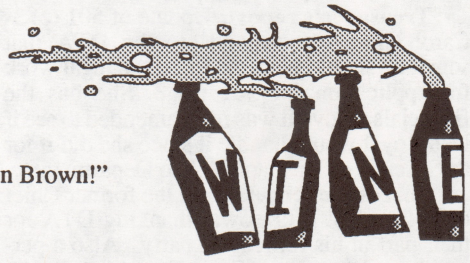
"Now comes a new order — with ladies sharing full drinking rights and privileges with the men — this means the development of a new school of drinking etiquette basically different from that of pre-prohibition time. And with the return of honest liquors and wines a wide variation from the 'Prohibition Etiquette is on the way. Now the host and hostess need not be ashamed of the liquor served, and the flavors and tastes of liquors do not have to be disguised."

Other chapters: American Whiskies, Blended whiskies? Gin, cognac, wines & recipes, The Glass Closet, Equipment for serving drinks, How to stock a cellar.

Bars and Grills seen here, too!

The railroad taverns in this district never became the 'fern bars' of the Seventies and most of them still look like the places our Dads took us to when we were tots. Only a generation ago, most of Depot Town's bars looked more like local franchises of what may be the biggest informal franchise business in America: Sportsman's Bar. Deer heads on the walls, corny show-card slogans mounted around the cash register, a big jar of pickled eggs, and a card displaying head- and stomach-ache remedies; these were the popular decor of such establishments when we sat at the door and waited for Daddy to come home.

(*Enter heart-breaking strains on the violin.*
"Is my Daddy in there?"
"Get away from them swinging doors, boy!"
"But I want my Daddy to come home!"
"Who *is* your Daddy, boy?"
"My Daddy's name is John Brown."
"John Brown? Why, *that's my name!* I'm John Brown!"
"*Daddy!*"
"*Son!*"
(*Music fades to golden sunset glow, etc.*)



No, we're not that old fashioned any more, but we never got really fancy schmancy about our taverns, either. Depot Town never had glass blocks mounted in the windows, although more prim and proper towns insisted upon such privacy and decorum to protect the 'ladies' of the neighborhood from licentious glances from the 'gentlemen' seated at the bar.

We never had a railroad tavern install one of those cocktail-glass-shaped windows in the front door, either, and we're all the poorer for it. But we had animated, neon, and incandescent beer signs - before the laws put a stop to those, too! Blue neon light strips lining the front windows are still legal, but nobody wants to be seen in the light, do they?

Today we wonder if the district ever had a real 'grill,' as were offered in English taverns with bedrooms above. Their grill was not a stove for frying hamburgers; it was a grill that pulled down to close the bar after hours - while the guests might still use the tables for breakfast or any other non-drinking activity. Today's 'pubs' often like to sound *teddibly* Olde English by adding an 'e' to 'grille', but they're talking about a cooking appliance.

Now somebody is going to try to tell us the 'bar' wasn't really a long bench over which drinks were served, but an iron pipe with which they locked the door to keep the guest out. Or in. We doubt it. We tend to be a bit skeptical down here in Ypsi's old railroad district.

1943: The attitude ten years later:

- from *1001 drinks, A practical handbook for professionals and amateurs* (no date or publisher, but appears to have been published about 1943, from the editorial stances taken)

"Dedicated to that prince of all good fellows: the man who pays for the drinks'

"Greetings:

"Of the making of drinks there is no end." Even to classify all known mixed drinks into headings would be a formidable task. However, since the blending of liquors, wines and other delectable beverages into satisfying drinks has been a more or less 'secret art' for the past decade or more, our happy escape from the restrictions of the Eighteenth Amendment (may it rest in peace!) calls for some sudden expert knowledge of these mixtures.

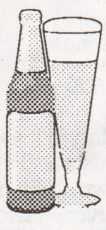
"To acquire this skill, it is well to study a manual based on dependable rules, as these rules have been evolved by masters, new and old. Certain liquors, wines, and 'trimmings' harmonize, belong together. Others quarrel like bad children. When one has learned the basic rules of combining drink ingredients, then he is qualified to make up delicious standard drinks, and later to venture into creations of his own..."

Mostly recipes:

Sours, cobblers, flips, brandies, sangarees, toasts, punches, cup drinks, cocktails, theatrical drinks, egg drinks, wines, fizzes, syrups, bitters, liquid measurements, glassware, helpful hints.

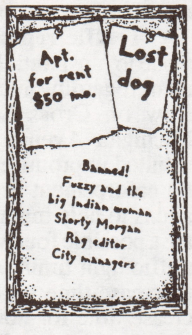
Ten stages of intoxication:

- from Duggan's Irish Pub, 3801 North Woodward, Royal Oak, MI



1. Witty and charming
2. Rich and powerful
3. Benevolent
4. Clairvoyant
5. Skip dinner
6. Patriotic
7. Crank up the Enola Gay
8. Witty and charming, Pt. II
9. Invisible
10. Bulletproof

Historical artifacts gone



Twenty years ago, most taverns in is block had bulletin boards or chalkboards where they displayed the names of (former) patrons who were banned - some for only a week, others for as long as 90 days! Today's bartenders probably do the same thing on their personal computers.

Gregory L. Dodd
Attorney at Law
- Family Law
- Criminal Law
- Personal Injury
- Probate, Wills, Trusts

300 N. Huron, Ypsilanti MI 48197
313-487-2611

Freeman Bunting Insurance Agency
107 West Michigan Avenue
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
Telephone: 482-4732
Betty Campbell
Nancy Petosky Jim Campbell
Mary Lou Linke Chuck Conklin
Security through insurance since 1921

Come see what Nature sent us this month . . .
Ypsi Food Co-op

Sun 12-5; M,T,Th,F 10-8; Wed. 10-9; Sat. 9-8
312 N. RIVER ST. 483-1520

Ypsilanti's FARMERS' MARKET
June 1
Youth Trading Card Day
June 8
Vendor Showcase
Craft project demonstrations
June 15
Berries 'n' Crafts
Crafts, gifts & strawberries
Early harvests of farm-fresh produce now coming in.
STOP IN FOR CRAFTS, FOODS & SPECIAL EVENTS
Wednesdays 9 A.M. - 4:30 P.M
Saturdays 7 A.M. - 3 P.M.
***Open all year* in the freighthouse**
For information: 483-1480

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- Paul Buczkowski, 485-0134

A Depot Town SAMPLER

Summer in a small city

May saw the locals out digging and planting, polishing their cars, raking the yards. Many of the rest of our neighbors showed up for PRIDE Day (People Restoring Image and Developing the Environment) and now most of the City and Township look as neat and nifty as Depot Town. Planters and baskets were filled with floral produce from the Farmers' Market and we'll have the rest of the summer to weed and water them. Last month didn't feel very much like summer, but the rest of this season in Michigan promises to be more 'summery' than just about anyone can stand.

June will see the Frog Island Festival reduced to two days this year, but as happy and vibrant as any jazz/folk event in the country. We led the way with Depot Town's event, and now we tend to take it for granted. That kind of quality is what we've come to expect. There are plenty of spaces for volunteers at the gate, tickets, security, clean-up, and general entreprenurialism up and down the block for our creative businesses.

July starts off with the biggest Independence Day Parade, ever, and seems to be the height of the season for sitting in the sun or the shade at any of Depot Town's charming sidewalk cafés and patios. In this old block, 'street people' are what we call ourselves, and it's a time of year much looked forward to by all.

August sees the return of the annual Ypsilanti Heritage Festival when we welcome more than a quarter of a million of what we call 'Yesterfesters' to the block and act like it's always like that down here. Well, it is, if you take away about 299,850 of them. Artrain will make its seventh stop here, this time with a load of gallery cars full of works from the Smithsonian Collection in Washington, D.C. The Depot Town stage will be overflowing with talent and fun for all ages and tastes.

September in Depot Town is almost too mellow to bear and, even with the kids back in school, it's still the season to laze about the district and bask in the ambiance of the old neighborhood. New local produce begins arriving at the Market and the Freighthouse becomes the center of the universe.

October starts the new season with the Fall Fest and football and preparations for another gorgeous season of color and camaraderie. All this gets us ready for a winter at the Festival of Lights, the Victorian Holiday, the New Year Jubilee, and a myriad of family events in the old railroad district.

That's the way the year goes down at the depot in Ypsilanti. It's been that way for a long, long time, and it'll probably continue that way for a long time still. As some of the kids point out at the pot-bellied stove in the Freighthouse coffeeshop every chance they get, "I don't care what those old geezers say, THESE are the good old days!"

And they're absolutely right!

DESIGNS ON YOU TREASURES
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